

STATE OF MAINE

—
IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD
TWO THOUSAND TWENTY-ONE

—
H.P. 403 - L.D. 558

Resolve, Directing the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry To Develop a Study Plan Relating to Perfluoroalkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances Contamination in the Agricultural Sector

Sec. 1. Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry; study plan.

Resolved: That the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry shall develop a comprehensive research study plan to identify and aid farmers who are or may be affected by perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances contamination. The department shall develop the study plan in consultation with research partners, including, but not limited to, the University of Maine; the University of Maine Cooperative Extension; the Department of Environmental Protection; and the Department of Health and Human Services, Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention. In developing the study plan, the department may consult with a statewide organization working to protect the public and the environment from toxic chemicals and a statewide organization representing organic gardeners and farmers. The study plan must include research topic areas that may include alternative agricultural business planning including energy production and alternative cropping systems, study needs, possible roles of state agencies and research collaborators to conduct the work, proposed time frames and a proposed budget and target sources of funding for implementing the plan. The department shall submit a report regarding the comprehensive research study plan, including findings and recommendations, to the Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry by February 1, 2022.